

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to urge you to support the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. Although I am not a DIRECTV customer, I believe the merger will increase video and broadband choices for consumers like me because the combined company will provide increased competition to cable companies.

The combined company will be a much stronger competitor to cable operators by being able to offer me local TV channels via satellite in my market area, which I currently do not receive.

Broadband access to the Internet is not available to me at this time. If the merger is approved, the new company will be able to provide me with affordable high-speed Internet access via satellite along with the other 40 million American households who do not have affordable high-speed Internet access now.

I do not see why Justice feels that this merger should be stopped. Virtually every industry is collapsing in upon itself in order to stay afloat in this economy. Aerospace, telecommunications and the computer industry all have huge companies that were previously several small companies. This merger would be very beneficial to anyone seeking alternatives for broadband communication.

Lastly, this is an election year. I hope that as MY representative to government you will voice MY views and not just those of influential special interests. I would appreciate a brief reply on your position on this matter prior to the elections.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Chris Conway
856 W Barberry Circle
Louisville, CO 80027